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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
YASUJI HIRAMATSU ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 09/926,012 :
FILED: AUGUST 14, 2001 :
FOR: CERAMIC HEATER AND :
SUPPORTING PIN :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- a1
3. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,
wherein a through hole, in which a supporting pin for holding the object to be heated
is passed through, is formed in said ceramic substrate.
4. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,
wherein said object to be heated is 5 to 5000 μm apart from the surface or the heating
surface of said ceramic substrate.
5. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,